



Happy Friday, Colleagues! Lots of important stuff here. Read to the end. It's Contract Time!

OEA General Election

The annual 2023 OEA General Election and NSEA Delegate Election will be held February 20-March 1, 2023. Elected positions in the elections include, OEA Vice President of Advocacy, OEA Board of Director members, NEA Representative Assembly delegates, and NSEA Delegate Assembly delegates.

****NOMINATIONS CLOSE AT THE END OF THE AR MEETING, FEBRUARY 14, 2023.**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE NOMINATED FROM THE FLOOR, YOU SHOULD SPEAK TO YOUR AR BY TUESDAY MORNING. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING ON THE 14TH.**

The following positions are open for election in 2023:
OEA Vice President of Advocacy (3-year term 2023-2026).

The entire membership votes for this position.

(Two) Elementary members (3-year term 2023-2026). Only Elementary members vote for these positions.

(One) Middle Level member (3-year term 2023-2026). Only Middle School members vote for this position

(Two) High School members (3-year term 2023-2026). Only High School members vote for these positions.

(One) Alternative Education/TAC member (3-year term 2023-2026). Only Alternative Ed/TAC members can vote for this position.

(Sixteen) Delegates to the NEA Convention (1-year term 2023) in Orlando, Florida, July 2nd-6th. The President and both Vice Presidents serve as delegates by virtue of their office; therefore, 13 educator delegates can be elected this year. ALL MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE DELEGATES. **(Forty-seven) Delegates** to the NSEA Delegate Assembly (1-year term 2023) the weekend of April 28th. The President and both Vice Presidents serve as delegates by virtue of their office; therefore, 44 delegates can be elected. ALL MEMBERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE DELEGATES.

Tax Information

Changes to the federal tax have meant that educators will no longer be allowed to deduct dues to professional associations as a miscellaneous itemized deduction. Your deduction can be found by reviewing your monthly bank statements, your cancelled checks, credit card statements or your OPS check stub. Teachers and education support professionals can claim an above-the-line federal tax deduction for the first \$250 of 'out-of-pocket' spending on student supplies. The above-the-line deduction is important because an eligible school employee does not have to itemize deductions to qualify.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parents have the option of either doing a virtual or in person parent teacher conference. The district will not mandate one or the other. Parents should work with their student's school to schedule. Building Administrators are given the option to work with their school community to identify what works best for them. How and when conferences happen may vary from building to building and concerned members should bring concerns to their ARs, with ARs bringing unresolved issues to the AR meeting on February 14th.

Legislative Updates

If you are not signed up to get the NSEA Capitol Update that

comes out weekly when the legislature is in session, [CLICK HERE](#). It gives you an update on what has taken place over the week, where the bills are in the process, and any call to action for educators to reach out to their representative. It is a very helpful tool. I also highly suggest you register with [Stand for Schools](#) for their updates and calls to action. There are many bills before the legislature that will affect the lives of our students, our staff, our families and our profession. Remember that you can [submit online comments via the Nebraska Legislature site](#) that are an official part of the record, and that [your senators](#) need to hear from you.

If you are passionate about politics, email me and join the PACE committee. The following is just one example as to why you should become involved with PACE.

LB753 (Voucher / Tax Credit Bill) is bad for OPS & public education in Nebraska. Unfortunately, it just passed its first hurdle on a 6-2 vote in the Revenue Committee. Join us at the OEA offices for some snacks Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 4:45 pm as we discuss the bill & ways to take action (reach out to your network, social media posts, thank you messages & more). Be sure to bring a personal device and charger too. Reach out to Michelle (Michelle.Settlemyer@nsea.org / 402-346-0400) if you need to join via Zoom, but we would love to see you in-person.

Committees! JOIN ONE! This is your Association, and it runs on member energy. <https://omahaoea.org/calendar/>

OEA Tip-Off

Use the provided link to read the latest edition. **February 10, 2023**

Negotiations

The OEA board has unanimously agreed to recommend

approval of the negotiated agreement for 2023-2026. Hurrah! We are moving forward with member education about the changes to our negotiated agreement. As with any negotiation process there are wins and losses. Your negotiator, Molly, will detail those in the video that will accompany the PDF explaining the changes. I feel as though this contract is filled with a lot of major wins and few losses. To me, the biggest questions are “How is my compensation changing?” and “What are my teaching and learning conditions today, and what are they likely to be as a result of these changes?”

The contract education page will be on the NSEA site, and you will need your member number (on the back of your copy of *The Voice*) to sign in. This information is for **MEMBERS ONLY**. Ratification is for **MEMBERS ONLY**. If non-members would like access to this information, kindly direct them to the OEA site and click the **Join Now!** tab. We expect to share the link to the contract education page on Monday, along with the official timeline for ratification.

PLEASE chat with your colleagues and fellow members to make sure they are getting these emails. The ratification process will be electronic, and we need to make sure that member emails are accurate. Members concerned about this should 1) *search* junk/clutter for my name or the Omaha Education Association to make sure they are not going there, 2) mark them as *not junk* if they are, and 3) *email me directly* if they are not getting the emails and need to correct their personal email.

Have a great weekend and remember to take time for yourself and do things you truly enjoy. Eat the dessert first.

In Solidarity,
Michelle

Omaha Education Association | 4202 South 57 Street, Omaha, NE 68117-1349

[Unsubscribe gloria.bustillos@nsea.org](mailto:gloria.bustillos@nsea.org)

[Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by michelle.settlemyer@nsea.org in collaboration
with



Try email marketing for free today!